

ART 321  
SPRING 2012  
SYLLABUS

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Studio: Tech basement – 657 1136

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OFFICE/STUDIO HOURS

T 10:45-11:30am; MW 2:00-2:30pm; and by appointment. I'll be either in my office or the metalworking studio.

ART321 - Topics in Art History I

Semester hours: 3

Choosing from the prehistoric (as early as 30,000 BC) through the Gothic (as late as AD 1500), this course may explore such topics as Ancient Egypt, Bronze Age and Classical Greece, Imperial Rome, or Medieval Europe. Study focuses on art materials, techniques, style, pre-historical and historical context, aesthetics, and criticism. While traditional methods of studying art history are used (e.g. slide lectures, discussion, written exams, and papers), students are expected to authentically replicate an objet d'art from the studied historical periods as a major project. This course is also web-enhanced, with an interactive class website and required web research and project presentation.

OBJECTIVES/GOALS

This semester, our topic is Etruscan and Roman Art. I have recently returned from leading an art history tour of Italy and my personal goal is to communicate to you the excitement I feel about the richness of the ancient cultures we experienced: art, mythology, history, intrigue, the land, sea, stories, smells, food and people, and more – both ancient and modern. I have chosen a textbook and an historical novel for you to read and study; I'll show you many images of tremendous places, people & things; I'll try to tell you everything I know about them... but communication has to work both ways. So, I'll expect you to be in class every day, to write down some of the things I say, to read all assignments, to write some words of your own, and to recreate an object from ancient Italy. To successfully complete this course, you should be able to do or have done the following:

- 1) Identify and analyze important works of art (what, who, when, where, how, why);
- 2) Explain those works vis-à-vis their respective artistic, cultural and historical contexts;
- 3) Demonstrate knowledge of the evolution of Etruscan and Roman art from the eighth century BCE through the fifth century CE;
- 4) Demonstrate an understanding that the creation art often involves many other areas of human endeavor including religion, philosophy, history, politics, theatre, music, mathematics, engineering, business, and more.
- 5) Make a self-portrait cinerary urn based on an Etruscan model and document the process.

To do so...

- 1) Come to and participate in class on time – every day – take notes, ask questions, make comments, be prepared to work on studio days;
- 2) Study the assigned text and the website's image presentations at least three times a week;
- 3) Read and analyze the historical novel;
- 3) Work outside of class sufficiently to complete your project;
- 4) Allow yourself several hours of preparation for each exam;
- 5) Be curious and don't hold back.

As you learn about other cultures, think about your own. Somehow, through the process of understanding others, we come closer to understanding ourselves. I believe that contemplating the art of those who have come before us helps to answer the ultimate question: "What does it mean to be human?"

## EVALUATION

A lot of information will be presented and suggested to you... most of it new and hopefully exciting. What I want is for it to become a part of you. I want you to "get it". How will I know this? Coming to class prepared and what you say, what you write and your project is the evidence on which I will base your grade.

- 1) Attendance is extremely important and will be factored into your grade (see ATTENDANCE and MAKEUP section on homepage). 100 points
- 2) Replica/Journal/Paper Project (see PROJECT section on homepage for details). 200 points
- 3) Exams Two exams worth 100 points each will be given. 200 points
- 4) Occasionally I will post questions to be answered online. This, along with class participation, will affect your grade.
- 5) Quizzes will be given if necessary.

## REQUIRED READING (see BOOKS on homepage.)

>Textbook: Kleiner, Fred. A History of Roman Art, Enhanced edition. Boston: Wadsworth, 2010.

> Historic Novel: Saylor, Steven. Roma. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2007.

OPI/PEPPS Table for Syllabi  
ART 321

Standard	Course Objective
<b>10.58.503 ART K-12</b>	
(1) The program requires that successful candidates:	
(a) develop competence and a working vocabulary in:	
(ii) art history and heritage through developing the ability to understand and appreciate works of art from different cultures, places, and times, [to include Montana American Indians;]	1) Identify and analyze important works of art (what, who, when, where, how, why); 2) Explain those works vis-à-vis their respective artistic, cultural and historical contexts; 3) Demonstrate knowledge of the evolution of Etruscan and Roman art from the eighth century BCE through the fifth century CE;
(g) connect art with other disciplines; and	4. Demonstrate an understanding that the creation art often involves many other areas of human endeavor including religion, philosophy, history, politics, theatre, music, mathematics, engineering, business, and more.